

Nablus protest on for third day

TEL AVIV, Feb. 7 (R). — Student demonstrations broke out for the third successive day in Nablus today. More than 40 students were arrested there on Sunday and yesterday. Military government sources said tonight that schools in Nablus were closed and pupils had attacked Israeli vehicles with stones. Soldiers dispersed demonstrators and by noon, quiet had been restored. The students were protesting against the establishment of Jewish settlements. Israeli security forces have arrested 45 Arab guerrillas belonging to seven different guerrilla cells in the occupied West Bank, a military spokesman said tonight. He said those arrested were found in possession of arms, sabotage equipment and duplicating machines.

JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

King Hussein exchanges messages with Arafat on Arab situation

BEIRUT, Feb. 7 (Agencies). — His Majesty King Hussein has sent a message to Palestine Liberation Organisation Executive Committee Chairman Yasser Arafat, the Palestine News Agency Wafa reported today. The agency said King Hussein's message was in response to a message Mr. Arafat had sent the King 15 days ago outlining the Palestinians' point of view on the current situation in the Arab World.

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Lebanese army clashes with Syrian forces in Beirut, east Lebanon

BEIRUT, Feb. 7 (Agencies). — Soldiers of Lebanon's fledgling army clashed in fierce fighting with Syrian peace troops today and reliable right-wing sources said at least nine people were killed.

The sources said the fighting, involving weapons of all calibres, erupted when Lebanese officers objected to an attempt by Syrian troops to establish a road block near a Lebanese army barracks in eastern Beirut's Fayadiyah suburb. Hospital sources, in eastern Beirut said several people were wounded, some seriously, and added that the death toll could rise further.

According to the rightwing sources, the clash left seven Syrians and two Lebanese dead and triggered a similar incident near the Lebanese air force base of Rayak in eastern Lebanon near the border with Syria. No details from Rayak were immediately available.

Raid on Palestinian offices

At the same time, Syrian forces raided Palestinian offices south of Beirut and arrested three guerrillas accused of the kidnapping of two Christians the day before.

The separate incidents, affecting both leftist and rightist parties, constituted a crackdown by Syrian peace-keepers during a recent upsurge of violence and lawlessness in post-war Lebanon.

The Lebanese army regulars, all of them Christians, fought an intermittent gun battle for four hours with the Syrians, who raged the Fayadiyah barracks north of Beirut with tanks and heavy guns. A ceasefire appeared to be holding at midday.

There was no official report on casualties but a French hospital said it was "full to the brim" with dead and wounded. Both sides also took prisoners. In Na'meh, nine miles south of Beirut, the Syrians "purged" the town and the area of guerrilla groups, an official peace-keeping communique said. It was one of the strongest crackdowns on the guerrillas since the war ended.

Politically, the Syrians and Palestinians have strengthened their alliance to counter President Anwar Sadat's peace initiative with Israel, but the two sides maintain only an uneasy truce in Lebanon.

Officers inside the Fayadiyah barracks said the gun battle started after the Syrians placed guards outside the gates of the army compound.

"When the Syrians refused to leave, the fight started," explained a Lebanese army lieutenant. He said it was not "knowing who opened fire first." Official statements did not say.

Syrian, Lebanese commanders will impose discipline.

Both the Syrian and Lebanese army commands treated the battles as a one-time, free incident and promised "prompt disciplinary measures" to punish those who caused the incident.

The clash in Beirut followed yesterday's deployment of strong Syrian reinforcements in the war-shattered capital, which has been shaken by a rash of bomb blasts on both sides of the invisible line between the Moslem and Christian halves of the city.

Defence Minister Fouad Butros issued a statement regretting the incident.

"I am confident that the (military) commands concerned will take the necessary measures to prevent any repercussions," Mr. Butros said in his statement. He added he hoped that harmony would be restored soon.

The Fayadiyah fighting erupted in the eastern part of the city where signs of popular disenchantment with the Syrians have been increasingly noticeable over the past six or seven months.

Lebanon's rightwing militias, composed mainly of Christians, were saved from military collapse by Syria switching support from the left in the later stages of the war. In rightist eyes, the war was caused by the presence of foreigners on Lebanese soil — Palestinian commandos.

We are grateful for the Sy-

Soviet reinforcements on the way as Ethiopia scores gains in Ogaden war

NAIROBI, Feb. 7 (R). — Ethiopian troops, supported by Cuban and the Soviet Union, have pushed Somali forces from areas round the strategic mountain city of Harar and back towards their border across the Ogaden Desert, according to Addis Ababa Radio.

The new offensive — described by officials in the Ethiopian capital as "concerted action ... to drive the Somalis out of our territory" — coincided with reports from Western diplomatic sources in Mogadishu, the Somali capital, that Soviet troops carrying thousands of Cuban reinforcements to Ethiopia were on their way to Ethiopia's Red Sea port of Assab.

The sources said the ships would dock soon and the troops would be deployed within the next few weeks of the latest flare-up in the six-month Ogaden Desert war, where the military initiative was now with Ethiopia.

Informed sources in Mogadishu said recent heavy bombing and shelling of Somali positions was seen as a prelude to a big ground offensive. But Ethiopia's acting Information Minister Bala Girma told reporters in Addis Ababa today: "The world is speculating that we want to go beyond our borders, but this is not true. All we want is to drive the Somalis out of our territory. We have to settle this question once and for all."

An information officer of the country's military council told reporters military gains had been made round the mountain citadel of Harar, a key stronghold on Ethiopia's eastern front.

Diplomatic sources in the Somali capital estimate that 3,000 to 6,000 Cubans are on their way to join the 3,000 Cubans and 1,500 Russians said by U.S. intelli-

gence reports to be already there, though this has not been confirmed by Ethiopia.

One Ethiopian spokesman in Rome said today the Soviet Union and Cuba had sent only about 100 military advisers and doctors to help and their aid had not exceeded \$1 million.

"We do not need the troops of the Soviet Union or Cuba, Maj. Girma Neway, Chairman of the Ethiopian Revolution Information Centre in Italy told a news conference. "We only get medical and technical assistance." But he added Ethiopia had reliable information that Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Iran were airlifting well over 7,000 troops to help the Somalis.

Ethiopia, which appears reluctant to call this latest push on its eastern front a counter-offensive, emphasises its defensive nature, though only made possible by large quantities of newly-supplied Soviet arms.

Big Russian transports, from an air fleet of more than 200, as well as dozens of Soviet and East European ships, have delivered supplies to Ethiopia in

the past several weeks.

Israeli shipments

Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan's confirmation last night of reports that his country was supplying arms to Ethiopia came as a surprise in some quarters.

One official of the Israeli Foreign Ministry stressed the sales were on a small scale and consisted mainly of ammunition, domestic and first aid equipment.

Some foreign news reports had said Israeli shipments included anti-tank, and anti-aircraft missiles, cluster bombs and napalm.

Mr. Dayan told an Israeli radio reporter in Zurich the decision had been based on Ethiopia's strategic position along the vital Red Sea shipping route to Israel.

But one official of his ministry said in Jerusalem today that because some states which supported Ethiopia were anti-Israel, any arms aid by Israel might well be a political risk, but this was felt to be justified.

Syria holds referendum on new term for Assad

DAMASCUS, Feb. 7 (R). — Over four million Syrians vote tomorrow in what is expected to be a near unanimous endorsement for President Hafez Assad's nomination for a second seven-year term.

The People's Council (parliament) last month unanimously approved the uncontested nomination made by the ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party leadership.

President Assad's present term ends on March 13 this year and the Peoples Council has approved a referendum on a new term for him.

Rallies and processions have been staged in support of President Assad, the first Syrian president since independence 35 years ago to complete seven continuous years in office.

Qatar warns "oil weapon" may be used if talks fail

BEIRUT, Lebanon, Feb. 7 (AP). — The Arabs will not hesitate to use the "oil weapon" against the West if the current efforts for a Middle East settlement collapse, Qatar's oil minister said in a newspaper interview today.

The warning contrasted with a declaration last month by the Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Fahd, that oil will never again be used against the West.

"The Arabs will resort to the oil weapon, if they become convinced that the peace efforts have reached a dead end. The United States will have to play its big role now and to pressure Israel to end its intransigence," Sheikh Abdul Aziz Ibn Khalifa told the Beirut conservative daily Al Anwar.

He said Israel will have to evacuate all Arab lands seized during the 1967 Middle East war, including Arab Jerusalem. "Jerusalem is an Arab city. It will remain Arab. And we will never budge from this position," Sheikh Abdul Aziz insisted.

He said that his father, the ruler of Qatar Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Hamad Al Thani, has urged West Germany, France and the United States to discontinue arms shipments to Israel.

"The oil weapon entered the 1970s war and was proved effective," he believed the United States can calculate the strength and effectiveness of that weapon. We will not hesitate to use the oil weapon again, if necessary," the minister added.

GUSH EMUNIM BID FOILED

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb. 7 (R). — Israeli troops have forcibly removed a group of ultra-nationalist settlers who strayed from the perimeter of the ancient site of Shiloh on the occupied West Bank which they said they were excavating.

Defence Minister Ezer Weizman told a group of Knesset members that the settlers — members of the Gush Emunim (Faith Bloc) — had tried to establish a settlement outside Shiloh, some 25 kms. north of Jerusalem.

PCC WILL MEET IN DAMASCUS SUNDAY

DAMASCUS, Feb. 7 (R). — Palestinian leaders will meet in Damascus next Sunday to decide on a date and venue for the 14th session of the Palestinian National Council (parliament-in-exile).

This was announced here yesterday by Mr. Khaled Al Fahoum, Speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC), who convened the Sunday meeting of the Palestine Central Council (PCC).

Mr. Fahoum's announcement followed a report by the Libyan Jamahiriya News Agency that the Palestinian leadership had already decided to hold the PNC meeting in the Libyan Jamahiriya in March.

The PCC, which acts as liaison between the PNC and the Palestine Liberation Organisation's Executive Committee, will discuss closer coordination with hard-line Arab states and the Soviet Union and other Eastern Bloc countries, Mr. Fahoum said.

Assad to visit USSR; Khaddam briefs Kuwait

DAMASCUS, Feb. 7 (R). — Syrian President Hafez Assad will make an official visit to the Soviet Union during the second half of this month, official sources said here today. Meanwhile, Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam arrived in Kuwait today to brief its ruler, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah on the outcome of the Algiers Summit meeting of Arab states opposed to the peace initiative of Egypt's President Anwar Sadat.

Sadat asks Congress for arms

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7 (R). — President Anwar Sadat today went to Congress, where he was welcomed as "a man of peace," to make a strong appeal for American arms.

He made it clear to members of Congress that his appeal for U.S. arms would not stop with his request for F-5E aircraft, which is now being considered by the Carter administration.

The Egyptian leader told reporters after a closed door meeting with members of the House International Relations Committee and congressional leaders that he would not be shy about asking for American military equipment.

Last time I was shy. I am not shy any more," said President Sadat, who told reporters that he had given a detailed report on Middle East developments to the legislators, his first since he met members of Congress in April last year.

Speaker Thomas O'Neill told reporters after the meeting that President Sadat had made "a real appeal for a note of bitter discouragement."

Mr. O'Neill said he detected "a sense of disappointment and concern" on the part of President Sadat, apparently over the pace of the peace drive.

Democratic representative Stephen Solarz of New York told reporters President Sadat had pointed out that in the past he had asked for the F-5Es but had described the aircraft as a 10th rate plane. The Egyptian leader said today that he was now going to ask for any equipment he needed, Mr. Solarz added.

Mr. Solarz said Mr. Sadat did not mention the highly sophisticated F-15 fighters which Saudi Arabia wants to buy from the United States. But he said Mr. Sadat obviously wanted more sophisticated aircraft than the F-5E.

President Sadat was warmly greeted when he met members of the House International Relations Committee this morning.

President Sadat's meeting with the members of Congress lasted about two hours then he went straight into a meeting with members of the Senate led by the Foreign Relations Committee.

In brief remarks to reporters President Sadat said he was happy with the warmth of his reception. When asked for his reaction if Congress did not ap-

prove his request for American arms, he joked: "If they don't approve I think I can say as a friend I shall raise hell for them."

Under the law, Congress can veto any foreign arms sale valued at more than \$25 million. Mr. Solarz, a member of the International Relations Committee and a strong supporter of Israel, said Mr. Sadat had said he wanted the U.S. military equipment, not to attack Israel, but because he was surrounded by unfriendly countries.

He said Mr. Sadat expressed particular concern about Soviet influence in Libya and Ethiopia.

He added that Congress' response to Mr. Sadat's request for military equipment would depend on its assessment of the chances of a Middle East peace. He said that even the supply of the relatively unsophisticated F-5 war planes would cross the barrier between non-lethal and lethal equipment and could produce problems in Congress.

Israel Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, meanwhile, was on his way to the United States, via Montreal because of bad weather in New York, for a 10-day visit to the United States designed to counter Mr. Sadat's depiction of Israel as intransigent.

ITALIAN COMMUNISTS DROP DEMAND FOR CABINET POSTS

ROME, Feb. 7 (R). — The Italian Communist Party tonight dropped its insistence on cabinet posts in an emergency government and said it was ready to join a parliamentary majority supporting a new government.

Party Secretary Enrico Berlinguer made the statement after a meeting lasting nearly two hours with Christian Democratic Prime Minister-designate Giulio Andreotti.

Peres, Sadat visits to W. Germany will coincide

BONN, WEST GERMANY, Feb. 7 (AP). — The leader of Israel's opposition party and President Anwar Sadat will be in West Germany at the same time, but a meeting between the two is unlikely, political sources said today.

A spokeswoman for the Social Democratic Party said Simon Peres, Chairman of the Israeli Labour Party and Israel's former defence minister, will travel to Hamburg on Wednesday for a meeting later this week of the Socialist International.

Mr. Sadat is expected to arrive in Hamburg on Thursday to brief Chancellor Helmut Sch-

midt on his meeting with President Carter and to drum up support for Cairo's position in Middle East peace talks.

In an interview with a West German newspaper, Peres said a peace agreement with Egypt and Jordan was still possible this year.

Mr. Peres, whose party has left open the possibility of returning occupied Arab lands as part of an overall peace settlement, opposed establishment of new Israeli settlements in the Sinai or the West Bank.

"Negotiations over the present settlements are already underway," he said. "I think that this problem can be solved."

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Israel dispenses summary injustice to Arab students under occupation

The first part of this article is a follow-up on a report published on page 2 of yesterday's paper by the U.S. based Palestine Human Rights Campaign on the case of Sami Esmail, a U.S. citizen of Palestinian origin. This is the second of a regular series of such articles, notices and updates that the Jordan Times will be publishing to publicise Israeli violations of the human rights of Arabs living under Israeli occupation.

By a Jordan Times Special Correspondent

Recent weeks have seen the continued mistreatment of young Palestinians by the Israeli occupying authorities. Two incidents in particular have made the international news media. The Jordan Times recently visited with reliable sources trying to determine the facts of the two cases.

The first case occurred on December 21, 1977 at Lydda airport. The person involved was Sami Ali Esmail, a Palestinian-American from Ramallah. The second case occurred on January 5, 1978 in Ramallah at the premises of the military governor. The two young men involved, Khaled Mohammad Abd Rabboh and Mohammad Shteyyeh, are both students at Bir Zeit University in Bir Zeit.

Mr. Esmail, a graduate student in electronic engineering at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan, arrived at Lydda airport on his way to Ramallah to see his dying father, Ali Esmail. He had been a teaching assistant and is about ten credits from completing his M.S. degree. Mr. Esmail never got to see his father because he was taken by police in the airport and put into custody. He has been accused of being a member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, meeting a foreign agent, spreading Hadaf (a PFLP newspaper) in the United States, and helping to collect money for the PFLP in the U.S.

When Mr. Esmail was finally allowed to see father, it was at his father's funeral and under heavy guard. He went to Birah, the twin town of Ramallah, 15 kms. north of Jerusalem, for two hours to pay his respects. Mr. Esmail was held in solitary confinement for the fir-

chigan State University and a member of the National Lawyers Guild in the U.S. are coming to the trial as observers. It is believed that Mr. Esmail was able to attend the funeral of his father only through the efforts of his lawyer Felicia Langer.

The second case involved the physical beating of both Khaled Mohammad Abd Rabboh and Mohammad Shteyyeh from 8 p.m. until 12 p.m. on January 5. Although there are many similar experiences which can be related by young Palestinian men, this instance is perhaps unique in that three foreign professors from Bir Zeit University, Dr. Bob Atkins, Dr. Sykes and Mr. Jim Auty saw the students go into the office of the military governor at Ramallah, waited outside, and saw them leave four hours later.

ISRAEL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Mr. Esmail had visited Ramallah last in 1975, and had been a student at Friends Boys School there, the Quaker school established by missionaries in 1878. Recently he had travelled to Libya and Tunisia as a part of an organised tour from the United States, for a period of about two weeks.

Mr. Esmail's case has received considerable attention abroad, and in fact 15 chapters of the National Committee to Defend the Human Rights of Sami Esmail have been formed in the United States. One chapter has been formed in Kuwait as well. His defence is being handled by Felicia Langer and in the United States Abdeen Jabara, an Arab-American lawyer in Detroit, has been retained for counsel. Some of the accusations by the authorities are alleged to have taken place in the United States. Mr. Esmail is to come to trial on the fourteenth of February. One of his professors from Mi-

The students had obeyed a summons originally, to report to the military governors' office, apparently in connection with a stone-throwing incident in Bir Zeit, during Sadat's visit to Jerusalem. Their fathers were kept waiting outside during the four hour period. At one point, sources told the Jordan Times, the silhouettes of someone receiving and someone giving blows was seen through a frosted glass panel while a door was open for a short time. When the two young men emerged they were physically broken. Mr. Abd Rabboh was immediately hospitalised on doctors' orders, while Mr. Shteyyeh was hospitalised the next day. Both men received severe beatings on their shoulders and buttocks for periods of half an hour at a time. Mr. Abd Rabboh reported in a story by Associated Press that he at one point was beaten while lying on the ground with several soldiers standing on him. Mr. Shteyyeh

reported that after a period of beating he was left alone with a female soldier and was told by her that he was handsome and that she would not tell anyone if he would only tell her what he wanted to know. In a telephone interview with Dean Baramki of Bir Zeit University, the military governor of Ramallah district denied that the men were beaten severely and they had in fact left in good health. This interview took place about one day after the incident.

The fathers of Mr. Abd Rabboh and Mr. Shteyyeh were threatened with fines of 2,000 lira if their sons demonstrated again. The Jordan Times was told that this tactic is an often used one, fathers of the accused are often made to appear with their sons or threatened with fines in an effort to put fear into anyone opposed to the occupying forces in Palestine. The Jordan Times was also told that it is not unusual for one or more students to be summoned to the military governor in Ramallah each week. In a recent incident, soldiers came onto the campus at Bir Zeit University, went to the cafeteria and took five students to the military governor in Ramallah. They asked for the fathers as well, and then threatened the fathers with fines if their sons demonstrated again, even though it was not proven just what the five students had done.

Since the incident, Bir Zeit University has lodged a formal protest as did International Red Cross. The foreign faculty members sent a letter of protest to editors of newspapers abroad and locally. Presently the students, on legal advice, are suing the occupying authorities. The authorities themselves are conducting their own investigation into the incident.

The Jordan Times was told that the incident at Ramallah is not at all unique, but that due to the fact that foreigners observed a part of it including hearing the sounds of interrogation, and observed the before and after condition of the men, it has received unusually wide publicity.

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Editor: RAMI G. KHOURI
Managing Editor: JENAB TUTUNJI
Deputy Managing Editor: RASSAM KISHUTY
Editorial Staff: ALAN MARTINY

Board of Directors:
JUMA'A HAMAD
RAJA ELISSA
MOHAMAD AMAD
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Responsible Editor: MOHAMAD AMAD

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan

Telephones: 67171-2-3-4

Tlx: 1487 Al Bai JO, Cables: JORTIMES, Amman Jordan

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Who will exert influence on whom?

The United States, and particularly the Carter administration, finds itself in a rather difficult dilemma with regards Middle East states' requests for American arms. Nobody believes that selling arms is based on anything more or less than a country's studied self-interest and its global strategic dictates, and it would be naive to expect the Americans to base their latest arms sales decisions on anything other than this. But given simultaneous requests for sophisticated American arms from Saudi Arabia, Iran, Egypt and Israel, it is interesting to see how the domestic pressures of the pro-Israel lobby in the United States may force the Carter administration to make arms sales decisions based on the dictates of Israeli, not American, self-interest and strategic considerations.

The most glaring example of this is the Saudi Arabian request to buy 60 F-15 Eagle fighter-bombers, which the Carter people had approved. Two weeks ago, however, a majority of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee circulated a letter to the U.S. secretary of state in which it said the sale of the F-15s to the Saudis would be against Israel's interest. In other words, the Senate committee was threatening to veto the F-15 deal if the administration proposed it formally (incidentally, students of the art of blackmail may have some fresh material to ponder here).

It is difficult to find a country in the world today that is strategically more important to the United States than Saudi Arabia, or one that is emotionally and politically more attuned to Washington's global vision. Furthermore, the Saudi Arabians have placed a great deal of symbolism in the F-15 deal, seeing it as a sign of American friendship and political commitment. It is therefore doubly worrying that such a fundamental U.S. foreign policy objective as strengthening relations with such an important country as Saudi Arabia could be subjected to the pro-Israel forces in the Congress in such a humiliating way. One thinks that it is perhaps too much to expect the Americans to lean on the Israelis in view of such spectacles as this obvious and embarrassing Israeli leaning on the Americans.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RAY, on Tuesday, said it seems that Israel cares no more whether peace will come to this area of the world or disaster and that, after it succeeded in limiting the American role to one of go-between. Hence, Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan declared that Israel does not consider ending the settlements policy even if the U.S. may look at that as a negative element in the current peace efforts. President Sadat's initiative took a beating in his talks with President Carter. With Israel's intransigence in mind it is a wonder anyone still has hope for the proposed resumption of the talks of the Joint Egyptian-Israeli Political Committee.

AL DUSTOUR said the only real result of the Sadat-Carter talks has been the Arab notification of the American stand: No self-determination for Palestinians; no full Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories and no U.S. pressure on Israel. America's attitude was never as clear and dry as it is now and it hits those who never did square in the face. The U.S. has accorded the Arabs a great service for now they all know what the truth in Washington is. The Arabs must now tell America, in action, that their fate is in their hands and that they will never submit.

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Prince Hassan presides over science meeting

AMMAN, Feb. 7 (JNA). — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan today presided over the preparatory committee meeting of the Science and Technology Policy Conference which will begin here on Feb. 18. The committee reviewed the conference working papers and arrangements for its success.

Prince Hassan expressed the hope that the results of the meeting would help bring about the necessary coordination between government departments and corporations concerning pursuit of subjects to be discussed at future symposiums and seminars.

By Ian Kellas
 Special to the Jordan Times

"In the name of the Merciful God Most Beneficent, Most Gracious", is the title of one of Badi Twait's most successful works on show this week at the Goethe Institute.

It lacks the intricacy and flourish of traditional Islamic calligraphy but if you look at it hard enough, you can make out the ancient text.

In other words, though, the Islamic element is less easy to identify despite the fact that this is supposedly an exhibition of paintings and Islamic ornament.

Certain symbols certainly recur — like the round of the mosque dome — but the artist is trying to go a bit further than this. The flatness, the elaborate repetition of design and the network of lines are all features of Islamic art and Badi Twait relies on them a good deal. But the end result is not so very different from the familiar optical art of the West.

Some of his linear patterns painstakingly executed no doubt with compass and rapidograph, are as uninspiring as their na-

WHAT'S GOING ON

Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew" is showing tonight at the British Council at 8:30. The film is directed by Franco Zeffirelli and stars Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor. Reserve entry tickets from the British Council.

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Alia seeks major route expansion says Ghandour



His Majesty King Hussein, flanked by period government officials listens to the presentation by Alia Ghandour on the airline's development in Amman on Tuesday. (JNA photo)

AMMAN, Feb. 7 (JNA). — Alia The Royal Jordanian Airline hopes this year to negotiate air transport agreements with the Ivory Coast, Japan, The Philippines, Libya, Australia, Canada, Argentina, India, Thailand and Indonesia.

This was announced here today by Alia's chairman of board of directors Mr. Ali Ghandour during a two hour presentation on the airline's development programme to His Majesty King Hussein, Premier Mudar Badran and top government officials.

Explaining Alia's plans for the future, Mr. Ghandour said the corporation will acquire new aircraft to replace the existing ones in the 1980's, and aims at annual profit of 12 to 15 per cent.

Last year's net profit was JD 200,000 and Alia's assets were estimated at JD 63 million, said Mr. Ghandour.

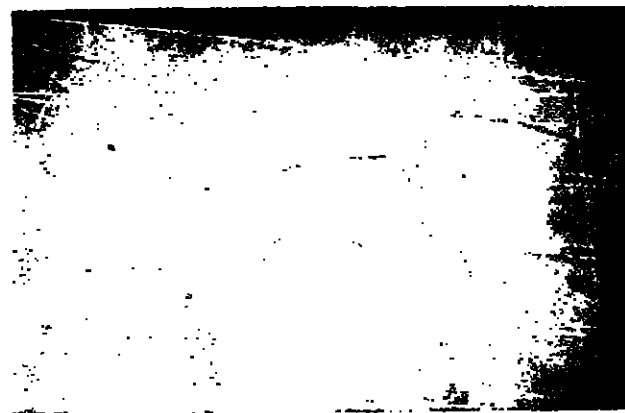
Among the problems Alia is facing, Mr. Ghandour said were the rising prices of fuel, restrictions on the remittance of funds, and fluctuations of world currencies.

The meeting was attended by the chief of the royal court, the commander in chief of the armed forces, the cabinet, Alia's Board of Directors, senior staff of the airline and other officials.

Plessey win contract

AMMAN, Feb. 8 (JT). — The British company reported by the Jordan News Agency yesterday to have won a contract for the supply of mobile telephone exchanges was identified by British commercial sources today as Plessey Ltd. The same company is also bidding on supply of other telecommunications equipment to Jordan, the sources said.

Glimpses of powerful imagination seen in young artist's exhibition



One of the paintings by Badi Twait on display at the Goethe Institute in Amman.

mes: Optical Formation No. 1, Optical Formation No. 2, etc. But there is one at least that is excellent. You find yourself swept down a hexagonal tunnel, paved all around in red and black tiles, towards

a star which really seems to emit light. The whole thing is remarkably involving and shows the artist's skill to best advantage. Apart from the abstract patterns there are a number of ha-

if surrealist works and some symbolical compositions. With both, the danger is that the artist does not pursue his original idea to the stage of producing a satisfying picture.

The two doves in the picture of that name are attractive and funny but they are decorative motifs, not a complete picture. — despite the vague bits and pieces floating about them. The Matisse-type hands and the olive branch in "Our Civilization" are excellent, but Petra is an uncomfortable adjunct to the composition.

If there are few pictures which are totally successful, there are nevertheless good features to the exhibition. Badi Twait at times shows evidence of quite a powerful imagination — best illustrated in the refreshingly free-style picture called Fire. And his handling of poster paint is clean and fresh. The exhibition will run until Feb. 11.

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4. Advertisements are not accepted over the telephone or telex, and guaranteed insertions on specific dates can only be assured by sending in the advertisements so they reach the Jordan Times office at least two days before the required day of publication.
5. For the minimum price of JD 3, the advertiser will have published an advertisement of three centimetres on two columns, which will have a maximum of 30 words, including the headline and telephone numbers to be called. The JD 3 charge is for one insertion; two insertions cost JD 6, three insertions cost JD 9, etc.
6. For a larger ad, the rates are JD 4 for 40 words and JD 5 for 50 words.
7. You can take advantage of the Jordan Times advertising by mail facility by completing the form below and mailing it with full payment in cash only to:

Advertising Department
 The Jordan Times
 P.O. Box 6710
 Amman, Jordan

Advertisers in Jordan must pay in Jordanian dinars; those in Syria may pay in Syrian currency at the going conversion rate.

(write one word only per box -- please print)

Please publish the above advertisement in the Jordan Times on _____ day (s). Enclosed is payment of _____.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Signature: _____

مكتبة الامم المتحدة

National News Roundup

QUEEN ALYA REMEMBERED

AMMAN, Feb. 7 (JNA). — The first anniversary of the death of Queen Alya will be observed on Thursday Feb. 9, 1978. Prayers for her soul will be read in places of worship throughout the Kingdom. In the evening a memorial religious ceremony will take place in the Royal Raghdan palace and be concluded with reading from the holy Quran.

Representatives of official and popular organisations will visit the tomb of the late Queen to lay wreaths and read the Fatihah for the peace of her soul.

These will include members of the royal family and officials of the Royal Hashemite Court; the prime minister, and cabinet members; the speaker and members of the Upper House; the Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces and top-ranking army officers; the directors of public security and intelligence and top officers of the two departments; the Chief Justice and Islamic religious heads; the Christian religious leaders; representatives of the welfare societies over which the late Queen resided, and friends of the late Queen.

Notice to telephone subscribers

AMMAN, Feb. 7 (JNA). — The Telecommunications Corporation has served notice that any telephone subscriber who wants to move to a new house should apply to the corporation for transference of his telephone set one month before the date of vacating the old residence. Non-compliance would entail cancellation of the owner's telephone subscription.

Cooperation between Jordan and Australia discussed

AMMAN, Feb. 7 (JNA). — Minister of Education Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali today discussed with the Australian charge d'affaires in Damascus ways and means of promoting cultural cooperation between Jordan and Australia. Meanwhile, the president of the Australian Trade Unions will begin a visit to Jordan on Feb. 21. During his two-day stay he will meet with the Jordanian officials concerned with the aim of strengthening labour cooperation between the two countries.

New measures to guarantee quality of agricultural produce

AMMAN, Feb. 7 (JNA). — The Ministry of Supply, in cooperation with the concerned departments, is working out new measures to guarantee the good quality of Jordanian agricultural products which are meant for local consumption or for export to Arab and foreign markets. Minister of Supply Marwan Al Qassem indicated that some farmers resort to deception when packing agricultural products. They place bad stocks underneath good ones which compels the seller to raise the prices of these products in order to offset the losses from damaged produce. The Ministry of Supply has also agreed with Romanian firms to provide Jordan with two plane loads of veal a week with effect from the middle of February. The meat will be sold at a reasonable price in the ministry's meat distribution centres. Mr. Al Qassem reported today.

Amman Stock Exchange Report

Stock	Volume	Opening	Highest	Lowest	Closing	Last	Last
						buying	selling
1. Jordanian Bank	300	1,000	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,000	1,050
2. Jordanian Commercial Bank	100	1,000	71	7,050	7,150	7,150	—
3. Jordanian Agricultural Bank	100	1,000	3,000	2,200	2,200	2,200	—
4. Arab Commercial Bank	100	1,000	15	0,550	0,500	0,500	0,500
5. Jordanian Industrial Bank	100	1,000	214	1,350	1,400	1,400	1,350
6. Jordanian Bank	100	1,000	5,000	15,400	15,550	15,550	—
7. Jordanian Bank	100	1,000	210	1,050	1,050	1,050	—
8. Jordanian Bank	100	1,000	50	0,550	1,000	1,000	0,950
9. Jordanian Bank	100	1,000	3,451	0,550	0,950	0,950	0,950

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A deluxe second floor flat located on the road to the Orthodox Club near the Wagon Stop. Consists of two bedrooms, living room, dining room and a large salon with a modern kitchen, two coloured bathrooms, storage room and glassed in veranda.
Centrally located JD 1600 per annum.
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Sahar's KITCHEN
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NEXT TO 'Bouquet' FLORIST
Large assortment of kitchen utensils, household items & gifts.
HOME DELIVERY POSSIBLE

A European team is favoured to win the soccer World Cup

A European team has never yet won a world soccer cup played in South America. This year it could be different. A sports writer sums up the chances of the sixteen qualifying countries for the Argentina finals.

by Barry Wilson

LONDON — The soccer World Cup finals have been held four times in Latin America and each time a Latin American country won (Brazil twice Uruguay twice). This year in Argentina it could be different.

First, a quick look at all the qualifiers. Exactly half of the 16 qualifying countries are from Western Europe — West Germany, Italy, Holland, Spain, France, Scotland, Austria and Sweden.

Two are from Eastern Europe — Poland and Hungary. Four are from Latin America — Argentina, Brazil, Mexico and Peru; and the other two are Iran and Tunisia.

Missing teams

The big difference between this year's finals and those in Germany in 1974 is the drop-out of Eastern European teams. Four years ago there were five: East Germany, Poland, Bulgaria, Romania and Yugoslavia.

Indeed eight countries which made the last finals will be missing in Argentina: Australia, Haiti, Uruguay, Zaire and the four Eastern European teams mentioned above.

The two most famous names missing from both the last two World Cup finals are England and Czechoslovakia. England can now be said to have been desperately unlucky. Never before have two past winners of the cup had to play off in the same qualifying group.

Last year England lost the tussle with Italy, on goal difference, alone, and Italy goes to Argentina one of the favourites.

Four years ago England were put out by unsung Poland. The Poles subsequently went on to finish third in West Germany, beating Brazil in the play-off for third place, and only very narrowly losing to West Germany in the semi-finals. The England team has come in for a lot of stick in recent years, but they have obviously not been lucky in the cup draw. The other unlucky team is

Czechoslovakia, reigning European champions.

Czechoslovakia reached the World Cup final in 1962 in Chile (losing to Brazil) — the best performance so far by a non-South American team in a Latin American final.

But in the last two World Cup qualifiers the Czechs have had to contend with the Scots, and in these years it is arguable that Scotland has fielded its best international teams ever. Four years ago Scotland was the only team not to lose a single match in the West German finals. Last year Scotland beat England more decisively than did Italy. This must give the Scots a good chance.

South Americans look ragged

What of the South Americans this year?

None of them have looked like potential World Cup winners. Even Brazil have been unimpressive, struggling to beat Paraguay in the qualifying rounds.

The Argentinian side, automatic qualifiers as hosts, has looked ragged, and did badly against a number of touring European teams last year. They will get fanatical support (and no doubt the easiest draw), and the home side has nearly always done well in the World Cup. But they are not playing like winners.

Peru is dismissed, even by South American critics, and

Mexico (eliminated by Haiti last time) only just scraped in this time ahead of Canada and the United States (all three finished with the same number of points).

This year's main "also-rans" are Tunisia and Iran. Tunisia, against nearly all expectations, beat Egypt and Nigeria in the African zone final. Iran, a more serious contender, very easily won the Asian zone, and they could produce a surprise or two.

European cup

But, on paper at least, this year it looks like a European team for the cup.

Either of the Eastern European teams could win without shocking the critics. Poland has gone on from its 1974 triumph, and qualified easily this time, and is having a very careful preparation. Hungary, after its triumphs in the 1950s, has been in the doldrums. The Hungarians are not hitting the headlines, but they now have an excellent mature, experienced side which has seemed to get steadily better in the last year.

The West Germans are probably favourites to retain the cup. They have the best international record of any country, including Brazil, over the past ten years. But they may now be in something of a decline. Nearly all the stars of the last World Cup have now gone, and significantly, the best German club team of the past decade, Bayern Munich, is nearly bottom of the German league.

The same sort of thing has happened to Holland. It is on-

ly in the last ten years that Holland has had any success at all in international soccer. So successful were Dutch national and club teams in the early 1970s that the team was a strong favourite to do well in the 1974 World Cup, and it did very well, of course, losing only in the final.

The Dutch team was very individualistic, and Johan Cruyff will not be playing in Argentina.

The Dutch won their qualifying group easily although some close games they won could have gone the other way. It will be a great surprise to most critics if the Dutch do as well this year as in 1974.

The two surprise European qualifiers are France and Austria. Rugby-playing France hasn't played in the World Cup finals for 12 years. It has never been an outstanding soccer playing country. It narrowly beat Bulgaria and Ireland to qualify. The Frenchmen, although keen, are not expected to cause any surprises in Argentina.

It is 20 years since Austria played in the last round of a World Cup. Before the Second World War Austria had probably the top side in Europe. But football has not gone commercial in Austria and today the national team is made up of semi-professionals and players playing for foreign clubs, mainly in Germany.

Austria won maybe the most competitive qualifying group, with first Turkey and then East Germany favoured to come through. But it is not expected to do well in Argentina.



One of the most successful German handball players in 1977 was Heiner Brand, who scored 25 goals for the national side. The German team have really prepared well for the men's world indoor handball championships beginning soon in Denmark. Since Germany finished up fourth at the Montreal Olympic Games' handball tournament, there has been a definite improvement in performance. Of 18 internationals, up till the end of 1977, 11 were won, three finished as draws and four were lost. The climax of this successful series were the two most recent internationals against Poland, the 1976 bronze medalists. (INP photo)

AMMAN MARKETPLACE

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Wagon Stop

THE FLYING CARPET CLUB

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Charcoal Grill RESTAURANT

2nd Circle near the French Leat

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Your HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RICHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A time when you can wisely preoccupy with all of the little affairs of everyday life that require considerable meticulous attention in order to have harmony in your life. Study right ways and means by which you will be able to more easily eliminate confusion.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get work done that will bring more order and neatness around you, give you a sense of well-being. Take time to have a good talk with those you love for constructive purposes.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Know what your true goals are and go after them in a positive way and get right results. Don't waste time envying others - get busy and make a better life for yourself.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Study your position in your community and do whatever will help improve it. Take collections and pay pressing bills. Show you are alert and wide-awake.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Plan how to improve conditions around you and then get busy doing just that. Make a new friend who can be of help to you far into the future. Avoid one who is a self-seeker.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Handle obligations meticulously and get good results. Know what is truly expected of you by mate, loved one and try to please.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Meet with partners and work out plans that bring greater success in the future. Find better ways of having better health. Don't fritter precious time away foolishly.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) With all that work ahead of you, you hardly know where to begin, but get at the most important first. Have a talk with fellow workers and range duties wisely, intelligently. Accomplish much.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Take time to plan future musings well so they work out fine. Show more thought for mate also. Good day to get budget in order.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Attend to those matters that will make your home more efficient and harmonious. Do more entertaining at home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Take care of important errands early. Write letters and look into the details of trip you may be planning soon.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Use good practical sense in handling money matters and get fine results. Business problems are best settled if you get the aid of an expert. Be a leader instead of a follower.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Study your reflection in the mirror and see where you can improve appearance and health. Good friends can be of assistance to you.

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to the Far East via superior

oriental cuisine and authentic

northern Chinese and

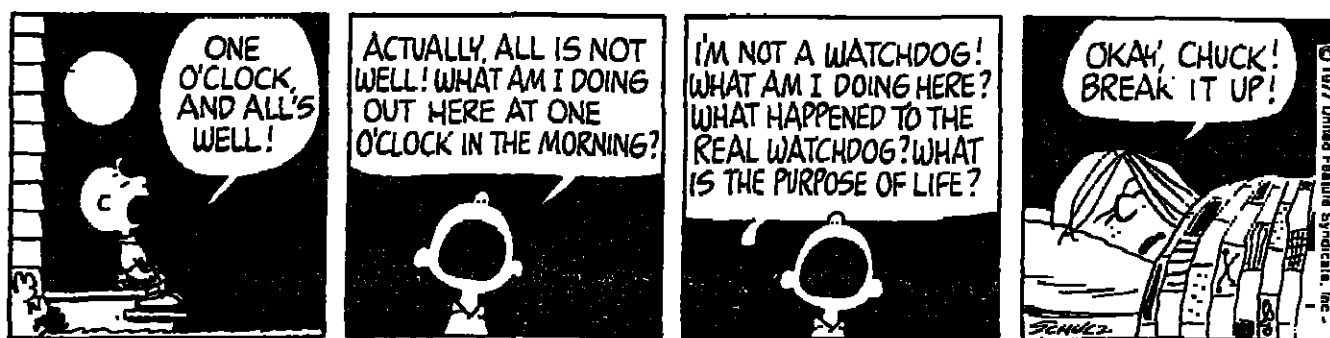
Cantonese dishes.

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PEANUTS



ANDY CAPP



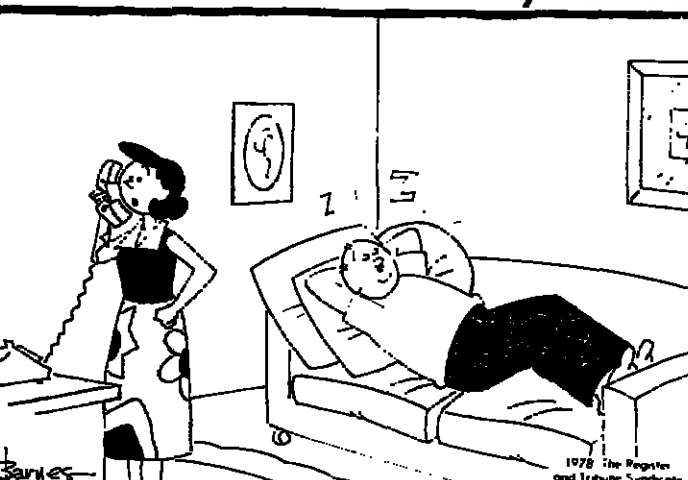
MUTT & JEFF



THE FLINTSTONES



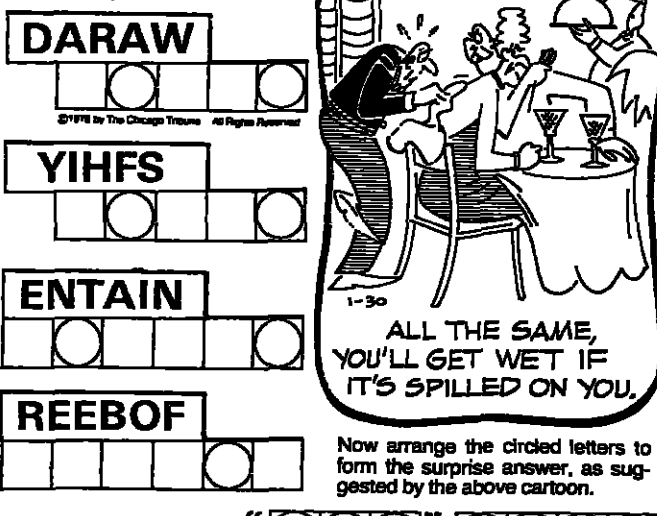
THE BETTER HALF. By Barnes



"Doctor, is there a drug that will CAUSE insomnia?"

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answers tomorrow

Yesterday's Jumbles: BROOD HAZEL POPLIN SYMBOL

Answer: You'd be a fool to accept this award - THE BOOBY PRIZE

GORED BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF © 1978 by Chicago Tribune

Q.1-Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠983 ♥A72 ♦K863 ♣AQ5
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♥ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
2 ♥ Pass ?

What do you bid now?
A.-While an opening bid opposite an opening bid would normally produce game, your hand contains a flaw—the perfectly flat distribution. Since you have no ruffing value, you should deduct 1 point, reducing the worth of the hand to 12 points. Therefore, a raise to three hearts is quite adequate.

Q.2-Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AQ1092 ♥A ♦752 ♣AQ8
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♣ Pass 1 NT Pass
2 ♣ Pass 2 ♥ Pass ?

What action do you take?
A.-Pass. Partner has shown a weak hand with a long heart suit and no preference for either of your suits. Game is out of the question, and you are in your best spot.

Q.3-As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠Q1072 ♥83 ♦6 ♣KJ10952
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass 1 NT Dble. Pass ?

What action do you take?
A.-One no trump doubled may be headed for a heavy defeat if partner would oblige by leading a black suit. Unfortunately, your holding makes it obvious that partner will lead a red suit, and that might cost a trick as well as a tempo. We suggest a jump to three clubs. While this is not forcing, it suggests a game contract—probably three no trump—if partner has a fit for clubs.

Q.4-As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AK7652 ♥A85 ♦73 ♣J8
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South
3 ♦ Pass ?

What action do you take?
A.-If partner is a reliable bidder, he should have a pretty good hand for a vulnerable preempt, so one more toward game is warranted. Your most likely game is in spades. We suggest you respond three spades. This is forcing, of course. If partner raises, which he should do with any three spades or doubleton honor, or simply returns to four diamonds, pass. You have done your duty.

Q.5-Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠K8 ♥K92 ♦AJ107 ♣Q1032
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Dble. Rdbld. 1 ♥
Pass 2 ♥ 2 ♣ Pass
2 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass ?

What do you bid now?
A.-Avoid the trap of rebidding three no trump. You have already shown your heart stopper and partner has indicated that he is not the least bit interested in no trump. With good four-card support for partner's second suit, you should raise to four clubs.

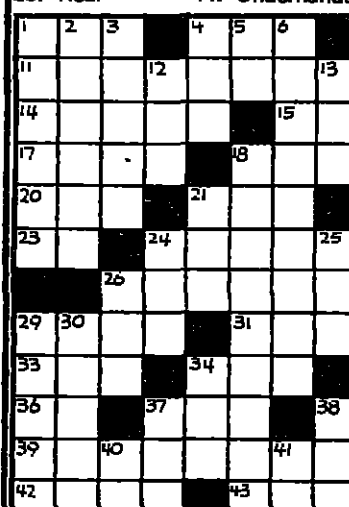
Q.6-As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠K6 ♥KQ1082 ♦J1054 ♣93
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
1 NT Pass 2 ♦ Pass
2 ♥ Pass ?

What action do you take?
A.-Since partner has already shown a minimum opening bid, there is a tendency to pass at this point. However, the two heart bid has improved your hand considerably. The double fit in the red suits increases your trick-taking potential, so you are worth one more toward game. Bid three hearts to advise partner that you are not averse to further action.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1. Belgian resort town
4. Part of be
7. Size of type
11. Consolidated
14. Vociferously
15. Indelicate
16. Music note
17. Lie at anchor
18. Spanish hero
19. Knock
20. Point in tennis
21. Person of im-
portance
22. Small missile
23. Near

DOWN
24. Thicken
26. Ceramics
29. Roasting stake
31. Reminiscences
32. Ancient Greek weight
33. Haridan
34. Ignited
35. Reconcile
36. Above
37. Eternity
38. Game
39. Indifferent
40. Incline
41. Esposue
42. Sea-goddess
43. Underhanded
44. Any one



Par time 30 min. AP Newsfeatures

ACUTE STOA BEFOREHAND
U L O R A Y D I M E
S E T M I T E R
E B B I T D O
R O W F I X D I S
D A Y D I G T I C
A T M A N R E N A L
D E B A R L E G T I
O D I N B A G R I O
C O G I T A T I O N
E R I S L E A N S

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

DOWN
1. Sacred beetle
2. Governing principle
3. Positive pole
4. Esposue
5. Any one
6. Rigid
7. Maul
8. Pronoun
9. Savin, for example
10. Embrace
11. Prompt
12. Unit of energy
13. Box, crate, etc.
14. Palm fiber
15. Downy
16. Author Clarence
17. Refuse wool
18. Time period
19. Kind of iron
20. Cosmetic
21. Indisposition
22. Exclaim
23. Velvet
24. Fuses
25. Motion picture studio
26. Owls
27. Tip
28. Pullet
29. Fashionable
30. Radium symbol

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6:

6:00 Quran
6:15 Caroons
6:30 Arabic programme
7:00 I dream of Jeannie
8:00 News in Arabic
11:00 News in Arabic

Channel 5:

7:30 Arabic programme
8:30 Arabic series

Channel 6:

7:30 News in Hebrew
7:45 Filter
8:30 Love thy neighbour
9:10 Duchess of Duke Street
10:00 News in English
10:15 Delvecchio

RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Morning show
7:30 News bulletin
8:00 Morning show
10:00 News headlines
10:03 Morning show
10:30 The Crystal Pyramid
11:00 Signing off
12:00 News headlines
12:03 Pop session
13:00 News summary
13:05 Pop session

14:00 News bulletin
14:30 Midday line
15:00 Concert hour
16:00 Pop session
17:00 30 minutes of jazz
17:30 Pop session
18:00 News summary
18:03 Play of the week
19:00 News bulletin
19:10 News reports
19:30 Signing off

BBC RADIO

GMT

05:00 News: 24 Hours
05:30 Sarah Ward
05:45 World Today
06:00 News: Press Review
06:30 Jazz for the Asking
07:00 News: 24 Hours
07:30 Sarah Ward
07:45 Report on Religion
08:00 News: Reflections
08:15 World Radio Club
08:30 Terry Wogan
09:00 News: Press Review
09:15 World Today
09:30 Financial News
09:45 Paperbacks
10:00 Talkabout
10:30 How to be a Musician
11:00 News: News about Britain
11:15 When Nothing Else is Left
11:30 Farming World
12:00 Radio Newsweek
12:15 Take it or Leave it
12:45 Sports Round-up
13:00 News: 24 Hours
13:30 World Radio Club
13:45 A Jolly Good Show
14:30 Gentlemen Only

15:00

Radio Newswheel
15:15 Outlook
15:30 News: Commentary
16:15 St. Martin-in-the-Fields
16:30 World Today
16:45 News: Book Choice
17:15 Discovery
17:45 Sports Round-up
18:00 News: News about Britain
18:15 Radio Newswheel
18:30 Top Twenty
19:00 Outlook: News Summary
19:30 Stock Market Report
19:45 Golan Treasury
20:00 News: 24 Hours
20:30 London's Musical Museums
21:00 Report on Religion
21:15 Wales and the Welsh
21:30 Alexis Korner
21:45 News: World Today
22:25 Financial News
22:35 Book Choice: Reflections
22:45 Sports Round-up
23:00 News: Commentary
23:05 World Radio Club
23:30 Matthew on Music

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT

03:00 The Breakfast Show
to the hour and 28 min.
06:30 after each hour
08:30 Regional and Topical Paperbacks
09:45 die comments ... news analyses.
17:00 News
17:15 This Week
17:30 Press Conference USA
18:00 Special English News

Words and their Stories. Feature: Short Stories. News Summary.

18:30 Country Music USA
19:00 News and Topical Reports
19:15 Letters from Listeners
19:30 New York, New York
20:00 Special English, News/ Words and their Stories
30:15 Music USA (Jazz)
06:00 GMT: News

AMMAN AIRPORT

Arrivals:

6:15 Damascus
7:35 Doha
8:25 Dubai (AZ)
8:25 Muscat, Doha
10:35 Larnaca (CY)
11:15 Beirut
16:30 Jeddah (SDI)
17:30 Baghdad (IA)
17:00 Cairo
17:15 Athens
17:15 Amsterdam
18:00 Brussels
18:00 Baghdad
21:05 Frankfurt, Munich, Damascus (LEI)
21:35 London (BA)
21:45 Cairo

Departures:

8:00 Aqaba
8:00 Beirut (MEA)
8:55 Athens (KLM)
9:00 Beirut
9:10 Rome (AZ)
10:30 Baghdad
11:20 Larnaca (CY)
11:30 Athens
11:30 Cairo
12:00 London
17:00 Cairo
18:00 Baghdad (IA)
18:15 Jeddah (SDI)
20:00 Abu Dhabi, Dubai
22:30 Kuwait, Dhahran
22:35 Rawalpindi (BA)

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre (USIS) Tel. 41520
British Council Tel. 36147-8
French Cultural Centre Tel. 27009
Goethe Institute Tel. 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 44203
Amman Municipal Library Tel. 36111

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government) Tel. 75111
Civil defence rescue Tel. 24391-4
Fire headquarters Tel. 22080
Firstaid, fire, police Tel. 36881-2
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) Tel. 37111-3
Municipal water service (emergency) Tel. 36141
Police headquarters Tel. 21111, 37777
Najdah roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help Tel. 55205
Airport information (Alia) Tel. 55205

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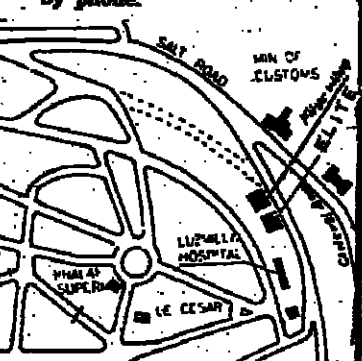
CHINESE RESTAURANT

First Chinese restaurant in Jordan. First Circle, Jabel Amman, near the Abdulla School or CMS. Tel. 35948. Open daily from noon to 8:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service—order by phone.

WINGS HOTEL

Wings Hotel, Jabel Luvailah. Tel. 22103/4. Voice of THREE set daily for lunch, and a party 12-3 p.m. and 7-12 Specialty: steaks.

For advertising in above columns contact "Sour Wa Sour" Tel. 35869. Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-5 p.m.



Suarez may decide to call early elections to revive popularity

MADRID, Feb. 7 (R). — Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez is considering holding Spain's second general elections in two years before the summer, immediately after the passage of a new constitution, sources in his party said today. The sources said Senor Suarez felt that the euphoria generated by the new constitution would benefit his Democratic Centre Union (UCD), a coalition of Christian Democrats, Liberals and Social Democrats.

The UCD won the country's first free elections in 41 years last June with a promise to lead Spain into full democracy from the Late Gen. Franco's dictatorship.

With economic problems and political violence eroding his popularity, Premier Suarez is considered to have better chances of winning the elections this year than later.

The new constitution is expected to be passed by parliament in May submitted to a

national referendum immediately afterwards.

Possibly with the elections in mind, the UCD launched a propaganda campaign last week to improve its image amid signs that the popularity of Senor Suarez is waning.

"The UCD is convinced as a party that it will continue governing for many years," Senor Suarez told a weekend rally in his hometown of Avila, near Madrid.

"I do not want to say for

how long because I do not wish to disappoint other political groups which obviously aspire to govern," he added.

The UCD has already proposed that the present parliament should continue until 1981 despite opposition demands that it should be dissolved immediately after the passage of the new constitution.

But a victory in post-constitutional elections would be more satisfying because it would give Senor Suarez a vote of confidence which he badly needs.

Results of last year's election gave the UCD 50 per cent of the votes, followed by the Socialists with 29 per cent, the Communists with nine and the rightwing Popular Alliance with eight.

By striking a deal with the Socialists, the Communists and other opposition parties, Senor Suarez has been able to deal with the country's economic and political problems.

But it is a fragile arrangement. The Communists, bolstered by triumphs of their Workers Commissions in recent trade union elections are already becoming restless.

Heyerdahl sets sail again from Karachi

KARACHI, Feb. 7 (R). — Explorer Thor Heyerdahl set sail in his reed boat Tigris again today only two days after completing a perilous ten-week Indian Ocean voyage in which the vessel was twice nearly scuttled by high seas and oil tankers.

Port officials said the Norwegian professor, famous for his 1947 Pacific voyage in the balsam raft Kon Tiki, was heading for Bombay.

Before leaving, Prof. Heyerdahl, 63, described his hazardous 2,000-mile voyage from southern Iraq, which aims to prove that the ancient Sumerians of Mesopotamia followed a similar route to become the first people to spread civilisation by way of the sea.

The most hazardous part of the journey, he said, was near Kuwait when rough seas damaged Tigris. He and his ten-man multinational crew repaired it in Bahrain with date palm leaves.

Sailing into the Gulf of Oman through the Strait of Hormuz, barely 30 miles across in places, the craft was nearly capsized by giant oil tankers passing close by, he said.

The 18-metre boat, built from Reeds to a 5,000-year-old design, left southern Iraq on Nov. 23 and sailed down the Gulf to Muscat in Oman before entering the Indian Ocean.

Prof. Heyerdahl eventually plans to sail in the Pacific in an attempt to make landfall in South America.



Pakistan's military ruler Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq (right) welcomes the Shah of Iran to Islamabad Airport on Sunday. Empress Farah is seen at centre, in front of accompanying Iranian officials. The Shah made a brief stop-over in Pakistan en route from India to Tehran. (AP wirephoto)

Direct-export Israeli orange turns up poisoned in London

LONDON, Feb. 7 (Agencies). Scotland Yard's Anti-Terrorist Squad was called in today to investigate the discovery of a mercury-injected poisoned orange bought by a London housewife.

The orange was in a bag bought by Mrs. Christine Chapman last week at the Jewish-owned Marks and Spencer department store in London's Edgware Road.

She spotted "pinhead-size metal drops" when she cut open the orange and immediately notified police.

Poisoned oranges have now been found in five European countries in the past week, including Belgium, Holland, Sweden and West Germany.

A group claiming to be Palestinian has claimed responsibility for contaminating the fruit — mostly Jaffa oranges from Israel — and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin has accused "terrorists" of trying to undermine the Israeli economy.

No one who has eaten a mercury-orange has died, but some have been violently ill.

Police here warned that the mercury might have been injected with a hypodermic syringe after the orange was on the counter at shops.

Westminster City Council, the local London government authority which analysed the orange bought by Mrs. Chapman, warned shoppers to cut

open all oranges before eating them and to look for droplets of silver grey.

A London spokesman for the Israeli Citrus Marketing Board, Roy Lewis, said: "There is no doubt the orange was poisoned in this country — by whom or where we cannot yet speculate."

Previously it was thought that all Jaffa oranges imported to Britain were safe as they were exported directly from Israel.

The Palestine Liberation Or-

ganisation office here today denied any connection with poisoned Israeli oranges.

A PLO spokesman here denied any knowledge of the Arab Revolutionary Army which had claimed responsibility for poisoning the fruit. The spokesman said: "This is all very mysterious and the PLO is completely against this way of fighting."

The PLO headquarters in Beirut has already denied the claim that Palestinians had poisoned Israeli oranges.

Israel prohibits film on how its soldiers evicted Arab villagers

TEL AVIV, Feb. 7 (R). — Israeli Education and Culture Minister Zevelun Hammer last night banned the showing on television here of a film depicting the eviction of Arab villagers by Israeli soldiers in 1948. Israeli Critics had opposed the film since it "could serve as Palestinian propaganda against Israel."

But the Israeli Film and Television Directors' Guild urged Mr. Hammer "not to become the first cabinet minister to undermine Israel's democracy." Argument about the film, based on a short story written soon after the 1948 war, has been raging in the press here and in public debate for several months.

Blizzard paralyzes U.S. northeast as 50 cms. of snow fall

NEW YORK, Feb. 7 (Agencies). — A raging blizzard paralysed the northeastern United States today, stranding thousands of people as roads, airports and railway tracks became snowbound.

Snow as deep as 50 cms. in places blocked cities from Baltimore to Boston, and winds of up to 64 kph whipped the snow into giant drifts and frustrated efforts to clear motorways and airport runways.

Snow, which started heavily yesterday, was expected to keep falling today to depths to 63 cms.

A thousand cars were reported by police to be stranded on a major highway in suburban Long Island, east of New York City, and owners of snowmobiles were asked to help rescue drivers. Most were commuters who had gone to work yesterday before the blizzard struck.

A Greek-registered tanker, the 22,944-ton Global Hope, reported it was leaking at the seams while at anchor off Salem, Massachusetts. A coast guard cutter headed for the stricken ship to help the 32-man crew.

About 900 people were stranded on commuter trains in Long Island and a rescue train which went to get them was itself stuck in the snow.

Authorities in the northeast cautioned people against driving, and business activity was at a minimum throughout the day.

Yesterday, stock exchanges closed early and virtually all schools closed.

The situation was the same elsewhere, from Virginia to Boston. Thirty-five cms. of snow blanketed Baltimore, paralyzing the city.

In Philadelphia, businesses closed early for the day or did not open at all.

On Cape Cod, near Boston, winds were recorded at 134 kph as the savage storm slowly moved northwards from the North Carolina coast, where it accumulated vast amounts of

moisture from the Atlantic. Much of Boston and its suburbs were crippled today when a blizzard knocked out electric power and buried the area under 50 cms. of snow.

Some 75,000 customers in Boston lost power when the storm short-circuited above-ground transmission facilities owned by Boston Edison Company early this morning, officials said.

A spokesman for the company said that it would take "a number of hours" to restore power.

U.S. attempts to whitewash Turk atrocities, says Cypriot minister

NICOSIA, Feb. 7 (AP). — Cypriot Foreign Minister John Christofides has accused the United States of attempting to whitewash atrocities committed by Turkey when it invaded Cyprus in 1974 and during the continuing occupation of the war-divided island.

The charges were made in a lengthy statement issued by Mr. Christofides late last night.

The statement said a White House report dealing with human rights in Cyprus, submitted to the U.S. Congress last week, was biased.

"It is characterized by an evident attempt to exonerate Turkey from its heavy responsibilities for the invasion and the continuing occupation, and also for the atrocities which the Turkish army perpetuates and continues to perpetrate in Cyprus," Mr. Christofides declared.

World News Briefs

Canada recovers some 12 Cosmos pieces

EDMONTON, Canada, Feb. 7 (AP). — Debris from the Soviet Cosmos spy satellite has been located in at least a dozen spots in the wilds of northern Canada, but searchers have not determined whether the satellite's nuclear reactor survived the fiery plunge into the earth's atmosphere. "It's too soon to say," Dr. Roger Eaton, a scientific adviser to Canada's Atomic Energy Control Board, told a news conference yesterday when asked if the pieces of metal collected so far provided any clues to the fate of the reactor's core of about 100 pounds of uranium 235. The search for the core, which would be lethally radioactive, began when the satellite re-entered the atmosphere on Jan. 24 and disintegrated in flames over Canada's Northwest Territories.

U.S. B-52 bomber vandalised in Georgia

WARNER ROBINS, Georgia, Feb. 7 (AP). — The Strategic Air Command is concentrating on base personnel in its investigation into the vandalism of a B-52 bomber. Warner Robins Air Force Base, the U.S. air force said yesterday. Air force sources in Washington said the B-52 bomber, vandalised on Friday, is an "alert bomber" — which means was armed with short-range missile and nuclear weapons. Officials at the base said only minor damage was done to the plane's cockpit.

Costa Rican opposition wins election

SAN JOSE, Feb. 7 (R). — Opposition leader Rodrigo Carazo today claimed victory in Costa Rica's presidential elections after half the votes had been counted. With no indication of when the final results of Sunday's voting would be known, Senor Carazo had won just over 50 per cent, compared with about 42 per cent for Senor Luis Alberto Monge representing the ruling National Liberation Party.

Czech hijacker wants W. German asylum

FRANKFURT, Feb. 7 (R). — A 24-year-old engineer hijacked a Czechoslovak airliner to Frankfurt yesterday and asked for political asylum, police said. Informed sources said four East German passengers had also asked to stay in West Germany. Police said the Czechoslovak hijacker, Vladislav Molnar, 24, took over the plane with 40 passengers and five crew during a flight from East Berlin to Prague.

Search for new Kuwaiti premier begins

KUWAIT, Feb. 7 (R). — The emir of Kuwait last night began talks to find a new prime minister following the resignation of his cabinet two weeks ago. It was officially announced here. Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah's consultations were expected to last two days, when the premier-designate would be announced an official spokesman said. The new government team was expected to be named at the weekend, the spokesman said.

India frees 17 anti-Shah demonstrators

NEW DELHI, Feb. 7 (R). — Seventeen Iranian students, arrested during the Shah of Iran's visit here last week, have been freed on bail. Their release was ordered yesterday by a Delhi magistrate, who restored their bail bonds revoked last Saturday after the prosecution alleged the Iranians had given false information about their identities. More than 100,000 Indian students at two Delhi universities went on strike yesterday to back demand for the unconditional release of the 17 Iranians.

Paraguay's Stroessner already knows he will retain presidency in this month's election

The South American state of Paraguay is about to hold a presidential election. Everybody knows already who is going to win — Gen. Alfredo Stroessner, who has been in office for the past 24 years. Stroessner leads the Colorado Party and to get a good job in Paraguay you must belong to the party. Political prisoners languish in jail and there have been reports of kidnappings, torture, and political murder.

By Patrick Knight

ASUNCION — A presidential election is to take place in Paraguay in this month, but not only does everybody know who is going to win, they also know by exactly how much. Gen. Alfredo Stroessner, in the saddle for 24 years, will gain 85 per cent of the votes, while two weak and almost unknown opposition candidates will get 10 per cent and 5 per cent each.

President Stroessner leads the Colorado Party. To get a job as a government official, to be a junior or secondary teacher, to hold legal office, or become an army officer, you have to join too.

This is one reason why Stroessner is so sure of winning. The other is that serious opponents have been systematically expelled from Paraguay over the years. There are 3.5 million Paraguayans, but a million live abroad, mostly in Argentina.

As a further reminder that it does not pay to oppose Stroessner, 220 political prisoners are held here, 200 of them since last April, when there was a round-up of young people accused of having links with guerrillas in Argentina,

as well as peasants who, with the backing of the church, were trying to organise co-operatives. This was seen as a major threat to the hold on power exercised by the middle men, key agents in the Colorado Party.

Besides the prisoners taken last year, a dozen have languished in jail for between 15-20 years. An army captain has been held in a cell measuring one metre by two for 15 years and his health is now deteriorating.

Another is a peasant considered to be innocent of any offence. He is being held to intimidate those working on behalf of human rights in Paraguay. For although four long-serving Communists were released from jail as a concession to the Carter human rights campaign early last year, little else has changed politically in Paraguay.

The opposition Liberal Party did manage to overcome its differences and form a union at the beginning of 1977. It looked for a while as if Stroessner might for the first time be given a run for his money. But following bribes, infiltration and threats, the Liberals have now disintegrated into six factions and the Electoral Board has given only

the two weakest and most corrupt groups permission to put up presidential candidates. The more honest and popular opposition leaders will not be allowed to participate.

They are now urging their supporters to cast blank votes, but as Stroessner's men count all the votes, this will make little difference to the result.

Despite a dead hand on politics, the economy is beginning to move in Paraguay. Soaring world prices for soya be-

ans and the high grade cotton grown in Paraguay have encouraged landowners, many of them recent migrants from Brazil and Japan, as well as a large Mennonite community, to cultivate large areas of new lands.

The dollars earned from agricultural exports, boosted Paraguay's income in 1977 and it may cease to be almost the poorest country in Latin America. So far there is little sign of the new wealth being distributed. Most of it is be-

ing spent on luxury goods for the few or no property speculation. Rents tripled in Asuncion last year.

One business carries on exactly as before, smuggling. Paraguay imports \$12 million of whisky a year, which means almost ten million bottles at duty free prices. It also buys \$5 million worth of cigarettes from the U.S. as well as French wines and champagne.

All these luxury goods are then "distributed" to neighbouring Latin American countries, and eventually sold at five or six times the duty free price, bringing an immense income to the army officers, government ministers and others whose huge fortunes come from contraband.

The Asuncion streets are often blocked with hooting Mercedes, Volvos and Peugeots. There is even the odd Rolls Royce Silver Shadow. In the countryside the bullock cart is still the main means of transport.

But although Paraguay remains in many ways the same as it was 50 years ago other factors apart from agriculture are pressing for change.

Work is now well under way on building what will be the world's biggest hydro-electric power station jointly with Brazil on the River Parana called Itaipu. This will eventually produce 12,000 megawatts, more than half all the electricity generated in Brazil at the moment.

Paraguay is not having to pay out for its construction, although it will be part owner when it is completed in the late 1980s. Its share of the

debt will be paid off by the sale to Brazil of its half of the power generated, although it will be half-a-century before money actually starts to flow into the Paraguayan exchequer.

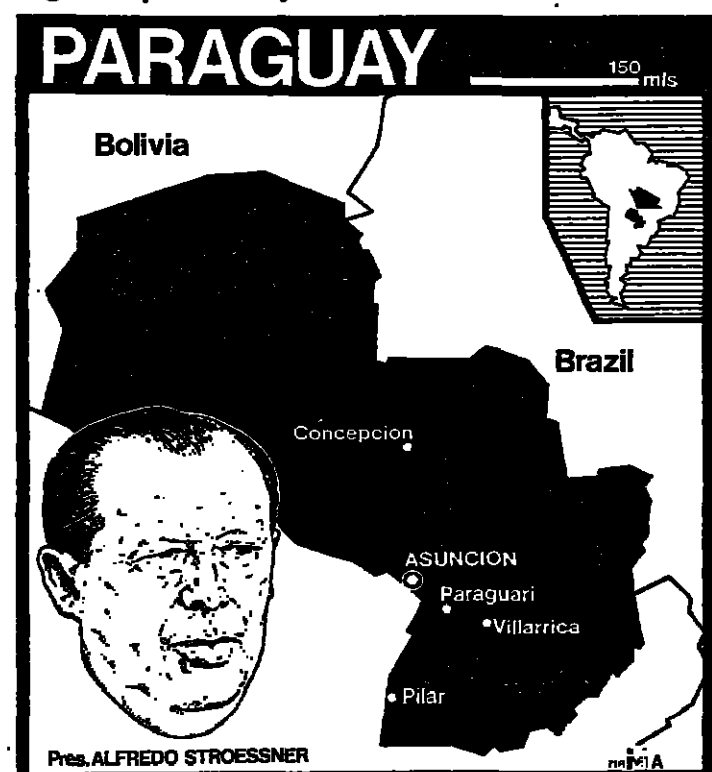
In the meantime, the only real benefits are the wages for the 20,000 Paraguayan workers helping in construction, also contributing to inflation in the country.

But Itaipu, a slightly smaller dam being built on the same basis with Argentina downstream and the possibility of yet a third, will bring real change to Paraguay.

It is almost certain that this year's election will be the last where there is only one candidate, and where there is only a clever pretence at democracy, achieved by paying members of parliament large salaries, and a series of perks, so as to persuade some so-called opposition members to participate in the charade.

The real opposition feels that time is running out for Stroessner. The world can no longer tolerate the existence of a country whose wealth is left idle, and whose inhabitants are deliberately kept in virtual misery, so that the ruling clique can bask in wealth, unconcerned about the fate of their fellows.

Stroessner has survived by virtually erasing Paraguay from the map. But the world is shrinking fast, and the country cannot be left fallow, peopled only by illiterate peasants and Indians who do not even speak or understand Spanish, just for the benefit of a handful of whisky smugglers.



مكتبة الأمل